



# The City of Morgantown

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## **Morgantown City Manager Announces Final Locations, Donations for Inaugural Urban Deer Archery Hunt**

*Morgantown's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Urban Deer Archery Hunt will run September 8 – January 31, 2012.*

MORGANTOWN – Organizers say permits have been distributed, rules finalized, and tree stands installed in preparation of the 2012 Urban Deer Archery Hunt, set to begin in just two weeks.

Last year's properties included the West Virginia University organic farm, both dairy farms, the WVU Farm Woodlot, the WVU Arboretum, and a few parcels in the South Hills part of town. This year several private properties have been added to the list, as well as a few portions of City Parks.

- WVU Arboretum
- WVU Organic Farm
- WVU Farm Woodlot adjacent to West Run Road
- WVU Farm Property on Stewartstown Road
- West Virginia Botanic Garden
- Private Property adjacent to Green Bag Road
- Private Parcel on Chalfant Lane
- Private Parcels in Southpointe Circle
- Designated portions of White, Krepps, and Dorsey's Knob Parks

In 2011, 67 hunters brought in almost 45 deer. This year, the hunting list has been expanded to 77 permitted hunters

The West Virginia Department of Natural Resources has also approved an increase in the number of deer each hunter may harvest. As long as they take an antlerless deer first, hunters can claim up to seven, up from 2 in 2011.

“Given the increase in the number of deer that can be hunted this season, we're very anxious to learn of the actual tally of deer harvested this year,” said Moore.

He expects that number to come in mid-January 2013.

But the Urban Deer Archery Hunt isn't just cutting down the overwhelming deer population. It's also giving hunters a chance to make sure Morgantown's less fortunate have a hot meal.

"As far as the abundance of venison anticipated to become available from the archery hunt, arrangements are being made with Backwoods Taxidermy, a local deer meat processing facility to butcher and wrap deer that may be donated by individual hunters," he added.

The processed meat will be distributed to area soup kitchens and shelters for use in their daily hot meals. Last year, 18 deer were donated to this cause, resulting in 400 pounds of fresh venison for local shelters.

Moore also says the City Manager's office plans to publicize data as the hunt progresses.

*Site locations, as well as the Urban Deer Archery Hunt Ordinance and rules, are available at <http://www.morgantownwv.gov/residents/urban-deer/>.*

*Daily updates from organizer Rick Bebout can be found on the Morgantown Urban Archers Facebook group.*

*To schedule an interview, please contact the City Manager's office Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. The number there is (304) 284-7405.*